

with CAP-MPT, and from 1987 to 1994 served at different times as both Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer of CAP-MPT. Retiring as Executive Vice President, Ms. Stricker is an example of the high quality of CAP-MPT's current leadership team headed by Chief Executive Officer James L. Weidner and their commitment to assisting its physician members in reducing the risks associated with medical practice and to improving the quality of patient care.

It is through CAP-MPT's advocacy and Ms. Stricker's participation in that effort that I become better acquainted, while serving on the House Committee on the Judiciary, with California's 20 year experience with the Medical Injury Compensation Reform Act (MICRA) and its important role in holding down the costs of medical care. The MICRA model as employed by CAP-MPT is of renewed significance as the Congress continues to address the issue of managed care and HMO reforms and how to best insure physician control of the patient care.

We welcome home Audrey Stricker as our own Pennsylvania inspired and ever evolving "21st Century Woman of Medicine". She will continue to inspire us, as she did all her colleagues through her steadfast pursuit of excellence. We look forward to the continued success of CAP-MPT's model of patient choice and physician control in its pursuit for the best medical results.

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. BILL J. JAMES

#### HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 1998*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent and my friend, Dr. Bill J. James, who is retiring this August as Superintendent of the Pleasanton Unified School District.

I applaud Dr. James for his continuous efforts on behalf of the children and their education in Pleasanton over the last 13 years. He is clearly one of the most recognized and revered educational leaders in the Tenth Congressional District and I thank him for the advice and expertise he has so graciously provided me in my first term.

In 1985, Dr. James came to Pleasanton to serve as the Superintendent of the then Amador Valley Joint Union High School District and the Pleasanton Joint School District. Prior to his arrival in Pleasanton, Dr. James was the Superintendent of the Paso Robles Joint Union High School District and the Paso Robles Union Elementary School District.

Some of the accomplishments in Dr. James' 13 years as Superintendent include the passage of a \$85 million school bond in 1988 with 76% of the vote and the passage of a \$70 million school bond in 1997 with 77% of the vote, the initiation of a Chamber of Commerce education subcommittee that later evolved into the PPIE Foundation, his appointment by the Governor to the Educational Council for Technology and Learning in 1997, the construction of a 1300 capacity middle school, the implementation of elementary counseling for grades K-5 in 1989 and the execution of a developer fee agreement to ensure that new growth covers the cost associated with expanding enrollments.

Dr. James, even with his very busy schedule, has truly been an involved and active member of the community. The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce, the Pleasanton Rotary Club, the Pleasanton Fine Arts Council, the Tri-Valley Business Council and the Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation are just a few of the many organizations Dr. James has contributed his time to over the past 13 years.

Though Dr. James is retiring as Superintendent of the Pleasanton Unified School District, I take great comfort in knowing that he will continue to reside in Pleasanton. He is an incredible resource on educational matters and he can certainly expect me to continue to take advantage of his expertise. Let me again offer my warmest congratulations for his 13 years of exemplary stewardship of Pleasanton's public schools and his 38 year career in education. I wish him the best in his well-deserved retirement.

#### TOBACCO LEGISLATION IN THE 105TH CONGRESS

#### HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 1998*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to express some thoughts regarding the legislation dealing with the proposed tobacco settlement.

Several weeks ago I sent a letter to the Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, the Honorable TOM BLILEY, asking that as the Committee considers legislation in this area, that it include several elements which I believe are critical to decreasing the rate of tobacco addiction among young people. I would briefly like to outline these points.

First, I strongly believe that any settlement legislation should include language requiring the General Accounting Office or other non-partisan, respected organization to conduct periodic studies on the impact of any tobacco legislation on tobacco usage by young Americans. These studies should examine tobacco usage not only among both teenagers, but also among pre-teenagers.

These follow-up studies are necessary, I believe, for providing policy-makers, including members of Congress, with detailed information on the success or failure of various aspects of a tobacco bill. The findings will also serve as the basis for any future legislative or regulatory changes to our nation's tobacco-reduction efforts. Currently, it is estimated that over 35 percent of high-school seniors smoke—a nineteen-year high—and that since 1991 smoking rates for both eighth and tenth graders have increased dramatically. It is imperative that any policies enacted are successful in reversing these alarming trends.

Second, I also strongly urge that any tobacco legislation include provisions aimed at curtailing the use by young people of all tobacco products, including smokeless tobacco and cigars. These products are very harmful to young persons. I am particularly disturbed by a Centers for Disease Control study which found that 16 percent of boys in grades nine to twelve use smokeless tobacco products in a thirty-day period. Other reports have found that cigar usage has increased at an alarming rate among American boys and girls.

The inclusion of these two elements will ensure that any tobacco legislation reduce the usage of all types of tobacco products. It will further ensure that Congress is given the data and information necessary to make common sense, effective changes in future tobacco policy with the ultimate goal of significantly decreasing the number of teenagers who smoke.

#### "U.S. POLICY OPTIONS TOWARD INDONESIA: WHAT WE CAN EXPECT; WHAT WE CAN DO"

#### HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 1998*

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the House International Relations Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, this Member urges his colleagues to pay careful attention to the crisis in Indonesia. It is far too large, and far too important a nation to dismiss in a cavalier fashion. This Member would take a moment to address the ongoing crisis in Indonesia and to explore what the United States and the international community can do to help stabilize that nation's economy and to help promote its nascent democratization.

Virtually all of Asia seems to be in turmoil these days, and Indonesia is no exception. Following months of economic turmoil and decline, unsatisfactory elections where the old regime sought an artificial vote of confidence, and weeks of student protest, President Suharto resigned after 32 years of autocratic rule. He leaves behind a nation on the edge of chaos. Although we must give Suharto due credit for leading his country through several decades of strong economic growth and development, this narrow economic success took place in the absence of the development of sound social and political institutions. The media was stifled, as were other forms of political and social expression.

The tragic neglect of these institutions and basic human rights by President Suharto may overshadow his economic achievements; only history will tell. Ironically however, President Suharto's neglect of political reform while promoting economic reform has perhaps done more to debunk the myth of Asian values and expose the Asian miracle than any other single action.

Most importantly, however, Suharto's neglect of political reform has caused much human suffering and tragedy. Indonesia's recent past has been marked with violence and bloodshed. Over 500 people died in the riots that left much of Jakarta's Chinatown in ruins. Some estimates have the death toll much higher. Many elites fled the country along with the large expatriate community, taking their capital with them.

The current situation in Indonesia is at the same time both complex and fragile. The public euphoria that accompanied Suharto's resignation is already being replaced by the sobering reality that Indonesia is entering a dangerous period. Suharto—who led his nation through a period of dynamic growth under an autocratic system—has left behind a political vacuum. The various social and political forces kept impotent under the Suharto regime must now forge a new identity and find a way to reassert themselves without causing a splintering of Indonesian society. Proliferation of ethnic or religious-based parties that would pull